Facilities in Dr. RML Hospital

372. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where the victims of the terrorists attack on Parliament were taken was found to be ill-equipped to tackle such a situation;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made by Government to identify the various departments of the hospital lacking the facilities when faced with such crisis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. The hospital is fully equipped to tackle such a situation. After terrorists attack on Parliament on 13.12.2001, 17 injured persons were brought to the casualty wing of the RML Hospital and all these patients were promptly transferred to the ward for necessary management / treatment. Patients who needed immediate surgical intervention were operated upon. All the necessary equipments needed for investigation / treatment were available and functional on that day.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Report of select committee of House of Lords on Ayurveda

373. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Select Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Lords in its 6th Report dismissed Ayurveda as unscientific;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has placed Ayurveda in a group of alternative therapies;

(c) if so, the details of the report; and

(d) what action Government contemplate on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ayurvedic Medicine was described as ancient discipline based upon the principle of mind-spirit-body interaction and employing natural herbs, usually, mixtures, in treatment. The system favours a philosophical approach and is indifferent to the scientific principles of conventional medicines.

(d) The Government provided literature and scientific evidences to the House of Lords Select Committee to substantiate that the Ayurvedic system is a scientific system. A delegation of scientists and researchers was deputed in March, 2001 which made presentation before the Sub-Committee in the U.K. of the trials conducted on scientific parameters for Ayurvedic drugs for their efficacy and safety. However, Lords debate reached the following conclusion:—

> "Some of the herbal remedies of Ayurveda can be included in Group 1, namely, they can be brought under the umbrella of herbal medicine."

Trade of Human Embryos

374. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade in human embryos and other precious human parts in on the rise;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 confers authority on the State Governments to appoint by a notification one or more officers as appropriate Authorities for the purposes of the Act who exercise powers to grant registration to hospital for removal, storage or transplantation of any human organ, to suspend or cancel such registration, to enforce such standards as may be prescribed, to investigate any complaint of breach of any provision of the said act or any rules made